

Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Thursday - 29 July 1954

- - - -

Congressman Fred Busbey (R., Ill.) testified before the Jenner Task Force on Strategy and Tactics of World Communism, and in the course of his testimony indicated that he was successful in only one of the three changes which he had tried to insert in the National Security Act which established CIA in 1947. He stated he was successful in his fight against incorporating the FBI into CIA. He was unsuccessful in trying to get a qualified civilian as Director who would stay on regardless of politics just as J. Edgar Hoover does. The other point he lost arises from the fact that CIA was the first intelligence agency he knew to evaluate its own findings, and through his training in intelligence he considered that to be a weakness. He also pointed out that in the beginning we had not taken the SI agents (War Department) who had training in this work, but rather had blanketed in Communists out of OSS. He pointed out that Congress has been stopped from looking into CIA, but that it was "time that somebody looks into CIA and cleans up the mess." He stated, "Show me one instance where the information has been of assistance." He also took some "swings" at General Smith.

CRC, 3/11/2003